

10A SONG Immigrant Eyes (5:32) MP3

- a Listen to the song. Tick (✓) the lines which are correct.
Cross (X) the lines where a word is wrong and circle the word.

Immigrant Eyes

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 Old Ellis Island was swarming | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 2 Like (it seemed) from a costume ball | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <i>a scene</i> |
| 3 Decked out in the colours of Europe | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 4 And on fire with the joy of it all | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 5 There my mother's own father stood huddled | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 6 With the tired angry and scared | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 7 Turn of the century pilgrims | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 8 Bound by the dream they shared | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 9 They were standing in queues just like cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 10 Poked and sorted and shoved | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 11 Some were one desk away from sweet freedom | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 12 Some were torn from people they love | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 13 Through this sprawling Tower of Babel | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 14 Came a young man confused and alone | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 15 Determined and bound for America | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 16 And carrying everything that he'd known | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Chorus | | |
| 17 At times when I look in my grandfather's immigrant eyes | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 18 I see that day reflected and I can't hold my feelings inside | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 19 I see starting with nothing and working hard most of his life | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 20 'So don't take it for granted,' say Grandfather's immigrant eyes | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 21 Now he rocks and glares out the window | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 22 But his eyes are still just as clear | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 23 As the day he sailed through the harbour | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 24 And walked ashore on the island of tears | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 25 My grandfather's hours are numbered | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 26 But I don't let his memory die | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 27 Cause he gave me the gift of this country | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 28 And the look in his immigrant eyes | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

Chorus

- b Listen again and write the correct word on the line.

- c Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 What impression do you get of Ellis Island and of the people who arrived there?
- 2 What's the significance of the Tower of Babel in the song?
- 3 Do you think that the singer's grandfather had an easy life when he arrived in the US? Why (not)?
- 4 How does the singer feel towards her grandfather?

SONG FACTS

Immigrant Eyes features on the 1995 country music album compilation *Together at the Bluebird Café*. Although Emmylou Harris has written and recorded many of her own songs, she's primarily known as an interpreter of other composers' works and as a backing vocalist and duet partner for other artists.

GLOSSARY

swarming = to move around in a large group
decked out = to decorate sb /sth with sth
huddled = to hold your arms and legs close to your body, usually because you are cold or frightened
poke = to push your fingers or another object into sb / sth
shove = to push sb / sth in a rough way